



Parents' Guide to the Characteristics of Effective Learning

How does your child learn? To be an effective learner they need to be demonstrating skills across all three main areas.

Playing and Exploring	Active Learning	Creating and Thinking Critically
<p style="text-align: center;">Finding out and exploring</p> <p>Show curiosity about objects, events and people. Using senses to explore the world around them. Engaging in open ended activity. Showing particular interests.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Being involved and concentrating</p> <p>Maintaining focus on their activity for a period of time. Showing high levels of energy, fascination. Not easily distracted. Paying attention to detail.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Having their own ideas</p> <p>Thinking of ideas. Finding ways to solve problems. Finding new ways to do things.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Playing with what they know</p> <p>Pretending objects are things from their experience. Representing their experiences in play. Taking on a role in their play. Acting out experiences with other people.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Keep on trying</p> <p>Persisting with activities when challenges occur. Showing a belief that more effort or a different approach will pay off. Bouncing back after difficulties.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Making links</p> <p>Making links and noticing patterns in their experiences. Making predictions. Testing their ideas. Developing ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Being willing to 'have a go'</p> <p>Initiating activities. Seeking challenge. Showing a 'can do' attitude. Taking a risk, engaging in new experiences, and learning by trial and error.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Enjoying achieving what they set out to do</p> <p>Showing satisfaction in meeting their own goals. Being proud of how they accomplish something – not just the end result. Enjoying meeting challenges for their own sake rather than external rewards or praise.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Choosing ways to do things</p> <p>Planning, making decisions about how to approach a task, solve a problem and reach a goal. Checking how well their activities are going. Changing strategy as needed. Reviewing how well the approach worked.</p>